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FM THE WHITE HOUSE

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~~TOP SECRET~~ SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD WH29571

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TONAK 16

MORI PER C03353745

DELIVER TO GEN HAIG FOR HENRY A. KISSINGER

AT AMBASSADOR WATSON'S RESIDENCE

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CONTAINS CODEWORD

OCTOBER 9, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. KISSINGER

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

NSA, State Dept. & NGA
review (s) completed

SUBJECT: NOON NOTES

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

1
LOSSES IN NVA 28TH REGIMENT: THE 28TH NVA REGIMENT, WHICH
ATTACKED FRIENDLY POSITIONS ABOUT FIVE MILES NORTH-NORTHWEST
OF KONTUM ON OCTOBER 6 AND 7, SUFFERED APPROXIMATELY 250 CASUAL-
TIES. AS A RESULT, REGIMENTAL ELEMENTS HAVE PROBABLY WITHDRAWN
IN ORDER TO REGROUP. ALTHOUGH THE COMBAT EFFECTIVENESS OF THE
REGIMENT HAS BEEN REDUCED, THE ENEMY WILL CONTINUE TO TRY TO
PREEMPT GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES TO REGAIN CONTROL OF ENEMY-HELD
POSITIONS IN NORTHERN KONTUM PROVINCE. MEANWHILE, THE ADVANCE
OF THE ARVN 40TH REGIMENT INTO THE AN LAO VALLEY NEAR THE COAST
IN BINH DINH PROVINCE IN MILITARY REGION 2 HAS RETURNED SOME
600 CIVILIANS TO GOVERNMENT CONTROL.

MOVEMENT OF MINESWEEPERS: THE FOUR MINESWEEPERS IN HAIPHONG HARBOR HAVE SHIFTED POSITIONS. PHOTOGRAPHY OF OCTOBER 1 AND 2 SHOWS THAT THE 167- FOOT MEDIUM MINESWEEPER HAD MOVED UPSTREAM FROM THE ROADSTEAD TO THE WHARF AREA. THE WOOSUNG- CLASS MEDIUM MINESWEEPER REMAINED TIED UP ALONG SIDE THE NUNG CHI 159 . THE TWO INSHORE MINESWEEPERS COULD NOT BE LOCATED. IT IS UNLIKELY THIS MANEUVERING INDICATES THE ENEMY IS TRYING TO SWEEP THE MINES. THE VESSELS ARE PROBABLY SEEKING SHELTER FROM TYPHOON LORNA, WHICH HIT THE PANHANDLE ON OCTOBER 2

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NORTH VIETNAM LOGISTIC EFFORT THROUGH LAOS PREPARATIONS ARE UNDERWAY FOR THE 1972-1973 DRY- SEASON LOGISTIC EFFORT THROUGH THE LAO PANHANDLE. THE NORTH VIETNAMESE HAVE BEEN SHIFTING THEIR VEHICLES FOR ANTICIPATED USE OF THE BAN KARAI PASS AND WESTERN DMZ ACCESS ROUTES. THE INITIAL SURGE OF TRAFFIC IS NOT EXPECTED TO ENTER THE LAO PANHANDLE UNTIL NEXT MONTH. THE MAJOR ROADS LEADING TO IT ARE GENERALLY SERVICEABLE. THE ROUTES THROUGH THE MU GIA AND BAN KARAI PASSES ARE NOT YET OPEN, HOWEVER, AND NO

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PREPOSITIONING OF SUPPLIES HAS BEEN NOTED. BECAUSE WESTERN DMZ ROUTES CAN BE USED TO HELP SUPPLY MILITARY REGION I, THE NORTH VIETNAMESE PROBABLY WILL NOT TRY TO CONDUCT A LOGISTIC CAMPAIGN THROUGH LAOS ON THE SCALE OF PREVIOUS YEARS.

25X1

AIR ATTACK ON AIRSTRIP IN LAOS INITIAL REPORTS INDICATE THAT AN ENEMY AIR ATTACK ON LIMA SITE 32 AT BOUAM LONG IN LAOS AT 6:15 A.M. EDT THIS MORNING LEFT THE FUEL STORAGE AREA IN FLAMES. COMMUNICATIONS INTELLIGENCE NOTES AT LEAST ONE MIG-21 OPERATING SOUTH OF THE 20TH PARALLEL DURING THE SAME PERIOD. LIMA SITE 32 IS A SMALL LANDING STRIP IN THE BOUAM LONG AREA AND IS THE ONLY ONE NORTH OF THE PLAINE DES JARRES PRESENTLY IN FRIENDLY HANDS.

No Objection to Declassification in Part 2011/10/04 : LOC-HAK-546-15-6-3

**SUCCESSOR IN PEKING: AMERICAN NEWSPAPER EDITORS VISITING PEKING
IS AGREE OVER WHO PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI TOLD THEM WOULD SUCCEED
CHAIRMAN MAO AND HIM WHEN THEY LEAVE POWER. TWO KNIGHT EDITORS
INSIST HE NAMED SHANGHAI COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER YAO WEN-YUAN,
WHILE A WALL STREET JOURNAL EXECUTIVE QUOTED CHOU AS SAYING IN
EFFECT A COLLECTIVE LEADERSHIP WOULD ASSUME CONTROL.**

**ITALIAN CHARGE SEES MAJOR BARRATT: THE ITALIAN CHARGE, WHO
REPRESENTS U.S. INTERESTS IN SYRIA, WAS ALLOWED TO SEE MAJOR
BARRATT IN DAMASCUS ON OCTOBER 8th. THE CHARGE REPORTED THE
MAJOR APPEARED IN GOOD HEALTH AND WAS PROMISED ANOTHER MEETING
WITH HIM LATER THIS WEEK. THIS WAS THE FIRST CONTACT WITH HIM
SINCE HIS DETENTION.**

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